Subject: Initial Lake Group Meeting

RE: Upper Mississippi River Headwaters Reservoir Operations Plan

Evaluation (ROPE) Studies

AGENDA

Welcome and Introductions

Name, organization representing, something about yourself or your organization

Purpose and Focus of this Kickoff Lake Group Meeting

- 1. Provide a short overview and status of the ROPE
- 2. Discuss the roles of this Group and others being formed
- 3. Define ways to organize and mobilize the Group

Overview and Status of the ROPE

Overview of scope, schedule, budgets, processes for this Study (see part 1 of the meeting handouts)

Explain and Discuss the Roles of this Group and Others Being Formed

Overview of the Groups being formed and the roles of each group (see part 2 of the meeting handouts)

Discussion on Lake Groups Roles

Are diverse interests represented?

Are key interests missing? If so, how can the group get a representative from that group to volunteer?

Organize and Mobilize this Lake Group

Review and discuss the Ground Rules and Meeting Procedures

Determine who will lead as Master of Ceremonies (suggest co-leadership)

Determine where and when the Lake Group should meet (location and time)

Determine who will record a short summary of minutes of each meeting

General Open Discussions - (focus on organizing the group -- as time permits)

Summary and Discussion of any Follow-up Actions Needed

Note: Participants please sign the meeting roster and indicate if you wish to be a volunteer – THANKS!

Adjourn Meeting

You may submit your questions via instructions provided on the FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) link on web page to get your question answered and displayed on the ROPE web page. That web page is located on the internet at: http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/project_info/rope/

GROUND RULES AND MEETING PROCEDURES

<u>All</u> participants **need to be respectful and respected**. Everyone needs to be **heard** and **listened to** (i.e., follow the golden rule: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you).

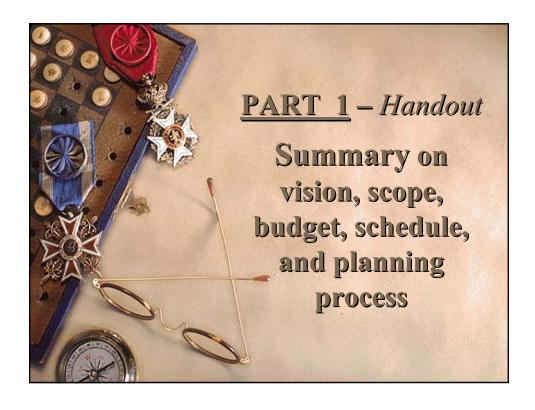
Seek to be inclusive of volunteers from diverse interests that represent a cross-section of lake users, landowners, and stakeholders.

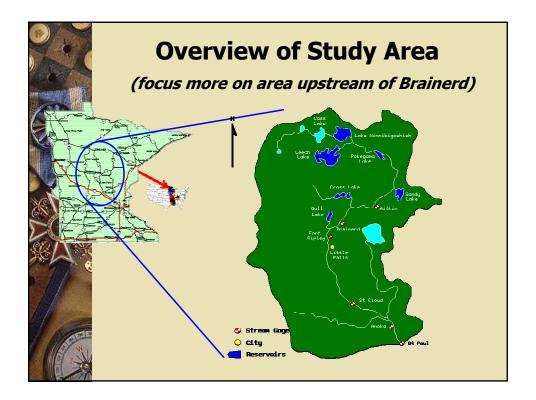
The meeting chair and all members of the group should try to stay on track to accomplish the primary purpose for each meeting (i.e., try to address items on the agenda). This will allow meetings to be completed within 1 to 2 hours and accomplishment of the most critical items.

Meetings should be recorded, and minutes of the meeting should be verified at the following meeting by the group. This documentation insures that results of the meeting are available for anyone who was not able to attend or wants to recall what happened.

If there are questions, they can be asked at a breakout session following the meeting and/or submitted in writing to the operators for response. Many such questions will also be posted on the Corps ROPE web page under FAQ (frequently asked questions). That way, anyone who has the same question can access a complete response.









Scope + Vision

- Detailed in the QCP (See Handout)
 - Budget (\$2.5 million Corps + USFS funding)
 - Schedule (4 more years)
 - Planning Process
- Keys to the Planned Process
 - Inclusive Public Involvement Process
 - EIS and Screening Report
 - Systemwide Approach
 - Matrix Scenario Based Evaluations

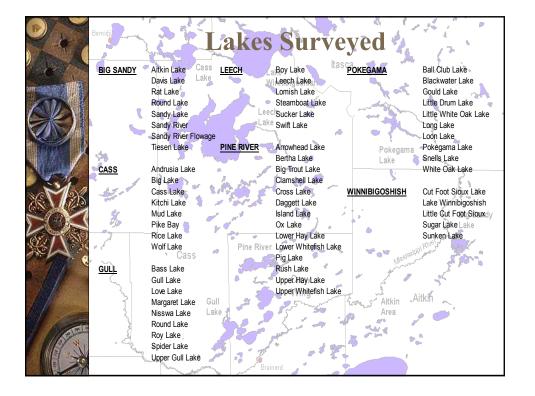


Matrix Evaluations

Simplified Sample

(NOTE: It will actually be much more comprehensive)

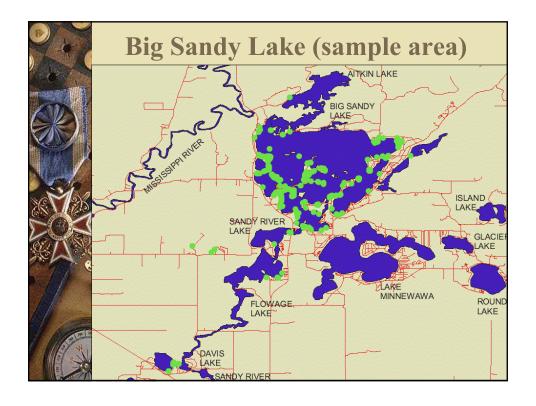
Outputs	Affects +/-	Remarks
Tribal Interests		
Trust Resources		
Environmental		
Water Quality		
Habitat		
Cultural Resources		
Recreation		
National		
Local/Regional		
Flood Control		
National		
Local/Regional		
Navigation & Other		

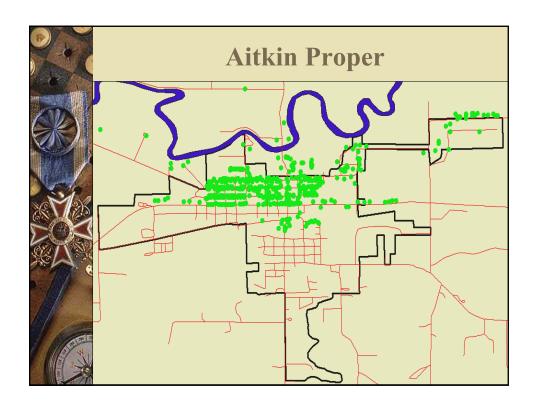


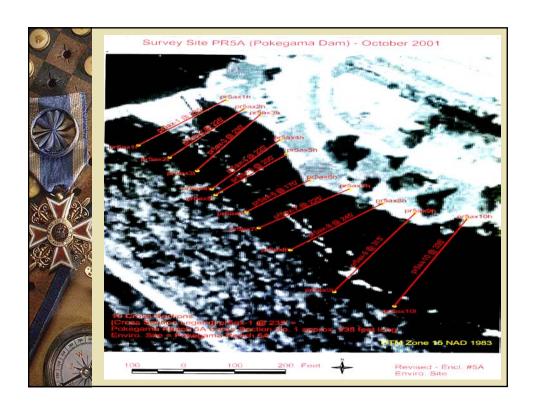


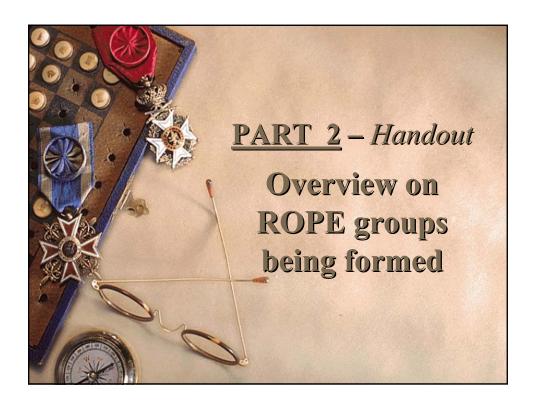
Number of Structures Found

Area	Commercial	Residential	Denied Access	Total
Aitkin	143	439	13	595
Big Sandy	9	254	2	265
Cass	10	68	0	78
Gull	2	83	7	92
Leech	10	136	0	146
Pine River	1	113	2	116
Pokegama	0	27	1	28
Winnibigoshish	2	15	0	17
Total	177	1,135	25	1,337











Many "Players" in the ROPE

(See table on the last pages of the pre-meeting information for details on various group roles)

- Partnering Group (overview by policy makers)
- **Delivery Team** (inter-disciplinary work team)
- Task Forces (technical interagency groups)
- Lake Groups (diverse local input groups of volunteers...)
- Other Groups
 - Tribal (Leech and Mille Lac/Sandy Bands inputs)
 - Downstream Interests (inputs from Aitkin, St. Cloud, Twin Cities, etc...)



More on Role of Lake Groups

- Provides upfront local inputs, perceptions, data collection & inventories and facts
- Provides ongoing matrix evaluations inputs
- Conducts reviews of Screening Report, Draft Report, and Final Reports
- Builds local understanding, trust, consensus (where possible)
- Establishes a means of two-way education & communications
- Assists in distribution of ROPE info and outreach to localized public and stakeholders



What Lake Groups Meetings Are and Are Not

- They are working meetings of local volunteers with focused agendas that are intended to receive local inputs and perspective which will then be integrated into the ROPE plan formulation.
- They are <u>not</u> public presentation meetings, hearings, or public open houses for the general public or media.

NOTE: The general public and media will be allowed to observe any of the lake group meetings. Also, at strategic points in the ROPE formulation there will be general presentation meetings and open houses specifically for the general public and media.



Lake Group Membership

Volunteers from diverse interests desired

Dam Operator Lake Manager/s
Local Lake Association Representatives
Local and County Government Officials
Chamber of Commerce & Real Estate interests
Local Media Representatives
Sportsman & Environmental Groups
Law Enforcement
Local landowners
Many others...